

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 296 - HB 779

March 6, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (004362, 004572, 004962): Requires the Board of Medical Examiners (BME), the Board of Osteopathic Examination (BOE), the Board of Nursing (BON), and the Board of Physician Assistants (BPA) to, within 45 days of receiving a completed application for licensure from an applicant who is licensed in another jurisdiction, render a decision on the application or inform the applicant of the need to appear before the board.

Requires the Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners (BPME), Board of Chiropractor Examiners (BCE), Board of Optometry (BOO), Applied Behavior Analyst Committee (ABAC), Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (BVME), Board of Occupational Therapy (BOT), Board of Physical Therapy (BOPT), Board of Communications Disorders and Sciences (BCDS), Board of Professional Counselors, Marital and Family Therapists and Clinical Pastoral Therapy (BOPC), Board of Social Work (BSW), and Board of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors (BADAC) to, within 60 days of receiving a completed application for licensure for an initial license or from an applicant who is licensed in another jurisdiction, render a decision on the application or inform the applicant of the need to appear before the board.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

**Increase State Expenditures – \$64,800/FY23-24 and Subsequent Years/
Division of Health-Related Boards**

Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-29-121, all health-related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. The Division of Health-Related Boards had a surplus of \$2,931,602 in FY20-21, a surplus of \$2,687,730 in FY21-22, and a cumulative reserve balance of \$37,100,641 on June 30, 2022.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Based on information provided by the Department of Health, it is estimated the boards will be able to process applications for initial licensure and from other jurisdictions in the required timeframe utilizing existing personnel.

- All applications for licensure are required to be approved or denied at a public board meeting; therefore, the BME, BOE, BON, and BPA must each meet at least eight times per year in order to comply with the 45-day requirement.
- The BPME, BCE, BOO, ABAC, BVME, BOT, BOPT, BCDS, BOPC, BSW, and BADAC must each meet at least six times per year in order to comply with the 60-day requirement.
- Each board member is reimbursed for travel expenses at a rate of \$160 (\$.63 per mile x 254 miles) per meeting, and either a per diem of \$100 per meeting or a per diem of \$50 per meeting, except for the ABAC which receives no per diem. The total cost per meeting per board member is either \$260 (\$160 + \$100), \$210 (\$160 + \$50) or \$160.
- The total recurring increase in state expenditures for additional board meeting is estimated to be as shown below:

Board	Number of Additional Meetings Per Year	Number of Board Members	Total Cost Per Member Per Meeting	Increase in Board Expenditures
BME	2	12	\$260	\$6,240
BOE	4	6	\$260	\$6,240
BON	4	11	\$260	\$11,440
BPA	4	9	\$260	\$9,360
BPME	1	5	\$260	\$1,300
BCE	2	7	\$260	\$3,640
BOO	2	6	\$260	\$3,120
ABAC	2	4	\$160	\$1,280
BVME	3	7	\$260	\$5,460
BOT	1	5	\$260	\$1,300
BOPT	2	5	\$260	\$2,600
BCDS	2	7	\$210	\$2,940
BOPC	3	5	\$210	\$3,150
BSW	2	11	\$210	\$4,620
BADAC	2	5	\$210	\$2,100
Total				\$64,790

- The total recurring increase in state expenditures is estimated to be \$64,790 in FY23-24 and subsequent years.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-29-121, all health-related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. The Division of Health-Related Boards had a surplus of \$2,931,602 in FY20-21, a surplus of \$2,687,730 in FY21-22, and a cumulative reserve balance of \$37,100,641 on June 30, 2022.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The script is cursive and fluid.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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